

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W

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R 191531Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 257

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 1232

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO

SUBJECT: RABIN AND PERES ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY

1. PRIMIN RABIN AND DEFMIN PERES BOTH HAD OCCASION FEB 18  
TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON SUBJECT OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS  
ON JUDEA AND SAMARIA.

2. SPEAKING TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN HADERA, RABIN  
RENEWED HIS CRITICISM OF THE GUSH EMUNIM SETTLERS NEAR  
SEBASTIA. PRESS QUOTES HIM AS SAYING: "STRIKING ROOTS IN  
THE LAND IS NOT A MATTER OF ONE-TIME DEMONSTRATIONS...  
I WOULD BE HAPPY IF THE (GUSH EMUNIM) DEMONSTRATORS WOULD  
SETTLE ALONG ISRAEL'S DEFENSE LINES. THE CONFRONTATION  
LINE IS ALONG THE JORDAN, WHERE THE SETTLEMENTS ARE CRYING  
OUT FOR MORE PEOPLE. WHY DON'T THEY SETTLE IN THE GOLAN  
HEIGHTS, OPHIRA, THE RAFAH APPROACHES, KIRYAT ARBA--WHERE  
THE GOVERNMENT HAS BUILT FLATS WHICH ARE NO STANDING EMPTY?"

3. PERES, ADDRESSING GROUP AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY,  
ARTICULATED BASIC PRINCIPLES GOVERNING ISRAELI SETTLE-  
MENT ON WEST BANK AS FOLLOWS: JEWS SHOULD BE PERMITTED  
TO SETTLE ANYWHERE IN ERETZ ISRAEL (THE LAND OF ISRAEL), NO

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ARABS SHOULD BE DISPLACED FROM THE LAND, AND ARAB SENSITIVITIES  
SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND. PERES REPORTEDLY CONCLUDED THAT

JEWISH SETTLEMENTS SHOULD BE INSTITUTED AFTER CAREFUL  
DELIBERATION AND IN A "SOBER FASHIN".

4. IN SPEECH PREVIOUS DAY AT KFAR SABA, PERES HAD ALSO  
ADVOCATED SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT BOTH JUDEA AND  
SAMARIA AS LONG AS SUCH ACTIVITY IS NOT AT EXPENSE OF  
ARAB RESIDENTS.

5. COMMENT: WHILE THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT  
PERES WOULD SUPPORT SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY ON WEST BANK  
IN THE ABSENCE OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATION, HE DOES  
APPEAR TO BE ESTABLISHING A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT POSITION  
THAN RABIN'S ON CONSIDERATIONS DICATATING WHICH SETTLE-  
MENTS SHOULD RECEIVE SUCH AUTHORIZATION. SUCH A  
DIFFERENCE IN VIEWS COULD BECOME IMPORTANT DURING  
PROMISED CABINET CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE OF GUSH EMUNIM  
ENCAMPMENT NEAR SEBASTIA.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, WEST BANK, LAND SETTLEMENT, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TELAV01232  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760063-1137  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760232/aaaabcia.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <02 JUL 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RABIN AND PERES ON WEST BANK SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDEV, JO, IS, (RABIN, YITZHAK), (PERES, SHIMON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006